

Summary
Supplemental Work Plan – Environmental Impact Statement
For the
LOST RIVER SUBWATERSHED
of the
POTOMAC RIVER WATERSHED
Hardy County, West Virginia
West Virginia Second Congressional District

Sponsors: Potomac Valley Conservation District
Hardy County Commission
West Virginia State Conservation Committee

Proposed Action: Construction of Site 16 on Lower Cove Run and deletion of Site 23 on Upper Cove Run in the Lost River Watershed

Purpose and Need for Action:

- Project purposes: flood control, rural water supply, and watershed protection
- Watershed problems consist of flooding, loss of agricultural productivity, erosion and sediment damage, degraded water quality, threats to human health and safety as a result of flooding, impaired land use, and lack of dependable water supplies. Opportunities exist to reduce flooding, reduce erosion and sedimentation, improve human health and safety, ensure adequate and dependable water supplies, and enhance agricultural productivity as a result of the Lost River Subwatershed Project.

Description of the Recommended Alternative:

The recommended alternative is to construct Site 16 as a multiple-purpose flood control and water supply structure and delete Site 23 from the Work Plan.

Resource Information:

- 38°55'28" degrees North latitude and 78°49'41" degrees West longitude
- Hydrologic Unit Number 02070003
- Moderate Climate with few summer and winter extremes
- Watershed Size - 117,200 acres
- Land Uses: 8% cropland, 16% grassland, 73% forestland, 3% miscellaneous
- Floodplain Land Use downstream of Site 16 (acres): 245 forestland, 75 miscellaneous, 396 grassland, 872 cropland
- Land Ownership: 75% private; 3% state-local; 22% federal
- Watershed Demographics
 - Hardy County Population (2000 Census) 12,669
 - Lost River Watershed Population (estimated) 2,600
 - 100% Rural Households, 99% White
 - Hardy County Per Capita Income \$19,449; National Per Capita Income \$29,469

- Hardy County Unemployment Rate 2.7%; National Rate 4.8%
- Hardy County Poverty Rate 13.1%; National Rate 12.4%
- Median House Value (2000 Census) \$74,700
- Median Household Income (2000 Census) \$33,778
- Median age of population (2000 Census) 38.9
- Farm Information
 - Number of Farms in Hardy County 468
 - Average Farm Size 274 acres
 - Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold (average per farm) \$264,161
- Archeological Sites Investigated as a result of project
Phase I – 42 sites; Phase II – 25 sites; Phase III – 2 sites
- Resource Concerns Relevant to Scoping: flood damages, erosion and sedimentation, agricultural productivity, water supply, recreation, water quality, endangered & threatened species, environmental justice, fish & wildlife coordination, cultural resources, invasive species, NED account, prime & unique farmland, public health & safety, riparian areas, waters of the US, wetlands
- Alternative Plans Considered and Components of each Plan
 - No Action Future Without Project Alternative
 - Alternative 1 – 3 as-built sites, land treatment, construction of multiple-purpose Site 16 for flood control and water supply, and deletion of Site 23
- No more than 9.6 acres of potential wetlands impacted by proposed Site 16 Project
- Mitigation Measures will be determined during the 404 permitting process. Estimated cost for anticipated mitigation measures is included in Site 16 construction costs

Project Costs – Alternative 1 (3 as-built sites, land treatment, construction of Site 16,

deletion of Site 23):

Construction	PL 534 Funds		Other Funds		Total	
	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Percent
Construction	37,274,600	93%	2,776,400	7%	40,051,000	100
Engineering	2,948,600	95%	145,500	5%	3,094,100	100
Relocation	334,500	82%	71,000	18%	405,500	100
Real Property Rights	4,600,200	49%	4,727,700	51%	9,327,900	100
Administration	831,600	85%	146,600	15%	978,200	100

Annual Project Benefits (Alternative 1): flood damage reduction benefits \$584,500; water quality improvement \$278,700; incidental recreation \$872,900; water supply \$1,118,900; other benefits as indicated in Tables 5 and 6

Net Annual Beneficial Effects (Alternative 1): \$393,600

Benefit Cost Ratio of Alternative 1, Supplement #4: 1.13

Period of Analysis: 100 years @ 5 1/8% project discount rate

Project Life: 100 years

Alternative 1 Benefit/Cost Ratio @ 1974 authorized project discount rate of 5 1/2%:
1.05

Environmental Impacts (Alternative 1): Potential environmental impacts include up to 9.6 acres of potential wetlands, 197 acres of prime and important farmland, 2,785 feet of linear feet perennial cold water stream, 5,570 linear feet of riparian habitat, and 220.7 acres of private land converted to public use. Environmental impacts to wetlands and wildlife habitat will be fully mitigated during the 404 permitting process.

Major Conclusions: Alternative 1, which includes construction of multiple-purpose Site 16 and deletion of Site 23, is the Recommended Alternative.

Areas of Controversy: Opposition by affected landowners at Site 16

Issues to be Resolved: To be determined during the Draft Work Plan – Draft EIS review period